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FARM FACTS

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Expectations High for Tennessee's Wheat Crop

Based on a June survey conducted by the Tennessee Agricultural Statistics Service, winter wheat producers are anticipating above average yields for 2001 despite insect and weather problems encountered during the month of May. The average State yield is forecast at 55 bushels per acre, the same yield as last year and the second highest yield on record. If realized, this will result in total production of 19.3 million bushels, down 8 percent from 2000. The biggest threat to this year's crop occurred during the second week of May, when armyworms moved into some of the top producing counties in the State. Growers actively treated for the pest and were able to prevent them from causing significant damage. A few fields with the greatest damage, however, were cut for hay. Weather

during May was mostly favorable, but strong storms at the end of the month did cause some isolated lodging. Fifty-five percent of the wheat crop had been harvested by the week ending June 17, well ahead of the five-year average.

Tennessee growers seeded a total of 520,000 acres last fall and intend to harvest 350,000 acres for grain, down 30,000 acres from last year. Dry conditions during planting last fall and normal crop rotations were the main reasons for the drop in acreage. The remaining 170,000 acres will be used as a cover crop or cut for hay and silage.

U.S. Winter Wheat

Winter wheat production is forecast at 1.32 billion bushels, down 2 percent from the May 1 forecast and 15 percent below 2000 to the lowest level since 1978. Based on June 1 conditions, the U.S. yield is forecast at 41.2 bushels per acre, down 0.6 bushels from the last forecast. Grain area totals 32.1 million acres, unchanged from May 1, but down 8 percent from 2000. This is the smallest winter wheat area since 1957. As of June 3, heading had reached 83 percent in the 18 major States. Harvest progress was at 3 percent, ranging from none in most States to 26 percent in Texas.

Kansas received widespread showers throughout May. The month of May brought seasonal temperatures and above average moisture to Colorado, conditions that were favorable for a crop that began the growing season with mediocre to poor stands. The crop continues to progress in mostly fair to good condition, but is still about a week behind the usual pace. The Montana crop condition plummeted during May due to damaging winds and dry soil. As of June 3, 77 percent of the Montana crop was rated poor to very poor. Crop conditions remained stable in Nebraska during May, where plant development is slightly behind normal.

Winter Wheat: Tennessee, Surrounding States, and U.S., June 1, 2001 with Comparisons ¹

State	Acreage Harvested		Yield Per Acre		Production	
	2000	2001	2000	2001	2000	2001
	1,000 Acres		Bushels		1,000 Bushels	
Arkansas	1,100	1,040	54.0	51.0	59,400	53,040
Georgia	200	220	54.0	48.0	10,800	10,560
Kentucky	420	340	57.0	56.0	23,940	19,040
Mississippi	235	170	55.0	50.0	12,925	8,500
Missouri	950	780	52.0	50.0	49,400	39,000
North Carolina	550	550	50.0	36.0	27,500	19,800
TENNESSEE	380	350	55.0	55.0	20,900	19,250
Virginia	205	175	63.0	57.0	12,915	9,975
United States	35,022	32,088	44.6	41.2	1,562,733	1,321,126

¹ 2001 forecast, 2000 final

Tobacco: Prices Received Monthly, By State and United States, July 2000 - April 2001 ¹

State	2000						2001			
	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr
Dollars Per Pound										
Florida		1.555	1.835	1.835						
Georgia		1.595	1.850	1.830	1.750					
Indiana					1.945	1.970	1.905	1.905		
Kentucky					1.975	1.990	1.995	1.980	1.785	
Maryland									1.710	1.420
Missouri						1.870	1.845	1.795		
North Carolina		1.705	1.845	1.855	1.855	1.970	1.945	1.845		
Ohio					1.950	1.940	1.915	1.895		
South Carolina		1.625	1.840	1.835	1.755					
Tennessee					1.965	1.975	2.075	2.125	1.705	
Virginia		1.910	1.855	1.910	1.950	1.960	1.830	1.265		
United States		1.695	1.845	1.855	1.950	1.980	1.995	2.015	1.720	1.420

¹ Revised.

Feed Price Ratios, Monthly, United States, January 1998 - May 2001¹

Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	Jun.	Jul.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Avg. ²
Broiler-feed ratio ³													
1998	4.6	4.7	5.0	5.3	5.5	6.1	6.7	8.1	8.2	7.7	7.2	6.6	6.3
1999	6.5	6.6	6.5	6.6	7.3	7.5	8.0	7.6	7.2	7.0	7.8	7.2	7.2
2000	6.3	5.6	5.8	6.1	5.8	6.3	7.2	7.0	7.8	7.1	7.4	6.5	6.6
2001	6.4	7.2	7.9	7.9	8.2								
Market egg-feed ratios ⁴													
1998	10.1	8.3	9.4	8.5	6.7	8.0	7.9	10.8	10.7	11.3	12.6	12.8	9.8
1999	11.6	10.5	11.3	9.1	7.9	8.3	10.0	10.1	9.4	8.1	11.7	10.1	9.8
2000	8.9	11.1	8.1	9.9	6.4	9.5	9.2	12.9	10.3	12.2	13.1	15.0	10.6
2001	10.9	11.4	11.7	11.5	8.5								
Milk-feed ration ⁵													
1998	2.77	2.78	2.75	2.70	2.63	2.93	3.04	3.61	4.04	4.23	4.26	4.34	3.34
1999	4.09	3.60	3.62	2.97	2.99	3.21	3.58	3.83	4.09	3.96	3.87	3.24	3.59
2000	3.07	2.94	2.88	2.84	2.63	2.96	3.29	3.38	3.34	3.11	3.03	3.03	3.04
2001	3.07	3.02	3.25	3.32	3.41								
Hog-corn ratio ⁶													
1998	14.1	14.1	13.7	14.8	18.1	18.6	16.8	18.6	16.0	14.6	9.7	7.5	14.7
1999	12.9	13.5	13.6	14.8	18.4	17.3	18.2	20.7	19.4	20.2	19.6	19.6	17.4
2000	19.3	20.2	20.5	23.3	22.9	25.6	29.5	28.8	25.8	23.8	19.8	20.2	23.3
2001	18.8	19.9	23.6	25.3	28.9								
Steer & heifer-corn feed ratio ⁷													
1998	25.8	24.8	25.2	27.5	28.3	28.3	27.9	31.6	32.0	32.1	32.3	30.2	28.8
1999	30.2	31.0	31.8	32.4	32.8	33.9	37.5	37.8	38.3	41.5	41.7	38.9	35.7
2000	37.5	35.9	36.2	37.0	34.7	37.4	42.9	44.7	42.6	40.5	39.7	39.0	39.0
2001	40.1	40.3	41.3	42.1	42.8								

¹ Quarterly commercial feed surveys discontinued in January 1995, comparable feeds based on US prices for Corn, Alfalfa Hay, Soybeans, and All Wheat. ² Simple average of monthly ratios, January through December. ³ Number of pounds of Broiler Grower Feed (corn-58 pounds, soybeans-42 pounds) equal in value to one pound of Broilers, live weight. ⁴ Number of pounds of Laying Feed (corn-75 pounds, soybeans-25 pounds) equal in value to one dozen Market Eggs. ⁵ Number of pounds of 16% protein Mixed Dairy Feed (corn-51 pounds, soybeans-8 pounds, alfalfa hay-41 pounds) equal in value to one pound of All Milk. ⁶ Number of bushels of corn equal in value to 100 pounds of All Hogs, live weight. ⁷ Number of bushels of corn equal in value to 100 pounds of Steers & Heifers, live weight.

**Cotton Ginnings: Running Bales Produced and Equivalent 480-pound
Bales Ginned, by Type, State, and United States, Crop Years 1999-2000**

County and State	Running Bales Produced		Equivalent 480-Pound Bales Ginned	
	1999	2000	1999	2000
All Cotton				
AL	601,000	524,000	644,700	551,700
AZ	715,400	782,450	712,350	768,500
AR	1,406,300	1,404,250	1,410,300	1,426,500
CA	2,107,900	2,463,150	2,202,550	2,585,800
FL	109,900	103,250	¹	¹
GA	1,520,300	1,615,250	1,570,700	1,669,000
KS	21,650	22,000	¹	¹
LA	887,600	897,900	932,350	936,150
MS	1,694,050	1,680,500	1,716,800	1,706,800
MO	463,850	526,950	457,950	514,650
NM	118,900	103,250	59,600	65,300
NC	791,000	1,384,800	828,150	1,452,400
OK	139,350	149,700	143,000	147,750
SC	273,800	369,350	271,750	366,700
Tennessee	577,500	691,400	590,450	708,500
TX	4,958,600	3,861,550	5,160,600	4,009,450
VA	140,950	162,100	135,700	149,850
US	16,528,050	16,741,850	16,966,200	17,179,500
American Pima				
AZ	15,800	7,000	16,600	7,500
CA	580,400	333,250	602,450	346,000
NM	10,600	4,450	6,550	4,550
TX	43,350	30,200	48,850	30,950
US	650,150	374,900	674,450	389,000

¹ Not published to avoid disclosing individual gins, but included in the U.S. totals.

**Tennessee Cotton Ginnings: Number of Active Gins,
Average Bale Weight, and U.S. Rank by County, Crop Year 2000**

County and State	Number of Active Gins	Average Weight per Running Bale Ginned	U.S. Rank by Running Bales Produced
Carroll	1	483.4	193
Crockett	7	488.1	40
Fayette	2	498.9	86
Gibson	4	492.1	125
Hardeman	2	491.9	213
Haywood	9	490.3	26
Lake	1	491.9	223
Lauderdale	3	494.2	67
Lincoln	1	485.0	259
Madison	2	488.4	82
Tipton	4	499.0	56
Tennessee	36	491.9	

U.S. Hog Breeding Herd Structure: The makeup of the U.S. hog breeding herd by size of operation has changed dramatically over the last 6 years. The average number of pigs per year, per breeding herd animal (includes sows, gilts, and boars) has increased from 10.3 in 1979 to 16.2 in 2000, a 58 percent increase. Only 29 percent of the increase was due to increased litter rates while 71 percent was attributed to the increase in the number of litters per sow per year and consequently, smaller breeding herd. The size of the U.S. breeding herd has declined 38 percent since 1979 while the pig crop has decreased only 2 percent.

Operations with more than 5,000 head accounted for 73 percent of the pig crop in 2000 compared with only 27 percent in 1994, (the first year of data for operations with more than 5,000 head). Conversely, operations with less than 5,000 head, accounted for 73 percent of the U.S. pig crop in 1994 and only 27 percent in 2000. Meanwhile, the number of hog operations with more than 5,000 head has grown from just under 1,000 in 1993 to nearly 2,100 in 2000. The increasing trend appears to be tapering off in 2000. The number of operations with less than 5,000 head has declined from 217,000 to below 84,000 during the same period.

The litter rate for operations with less than 5,000 head increased from 8.00 pigs to 8.48 pigs from 1994 to 2000, a six percent increase. The litter rate of operations with more than 5,000 head was 8.96 pigs in 2000 compared with 8.74 in 1994, less than a 3 percent increase. The relatively larger increase in litter rate for herds with less than 5,000 head is attributed to smaller, less efficient operations going out of business and a larger proportion of the pig crop coming from herds with 1,000 to 5,000 head.

The number of pigs per breeding animal per year for operations with less than 5,000 head increased from 13.43 pigs in 1997 to 15.13 in 2000, an increase of 1.7 pigs or 13 percent. Operations with more than 5,000 head increased from 16.08 pigs to 16.62 pigs over the same period, an increase of .54 pigs or 3 percent (The first year of available data was 1997). Again, the greater increase in pigs per breeding animal for operations with less than 5,000 head is largely attributed to the loss of smaller, less efficient operations and an increase in the proportion of operations with 1,000 to 5,000 head.

In conclusion, much of the increase in the efficiency of the U.S. hog breeding herd over the last 5 to 10 years can be attributed to the shift in size of operations to larger, more efficient operations and the decline in smaller, less efficient operations. For the future, it now appears that the increase in the efficiency of the U.S. breeding herd could slow some since larger, more efficient operations, those with more than 5,000 head, now account for nearly three-fourths of the U.S. pig crop. Also, the average annual number of pigs per breeding animal for the U.S. is now just 0.42 pigs below operations with more than 5,000 head compared with 1.26 pigs less in 1997. Likewise, the U.S. average pigs per litter is now just 0.13 pigs below operations with over 5,000 head compared with 0.55 less pigs in 1994.

Note: This special release is only available on the NASS website at: <http://www.usda.gov/nass/>.

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